



SOUTH MILWAUKEE BUSINESS GROWTH

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South Milwaukee Announces 525% Increase in New Businesses Over Six Year Period

From 2017 to 2022, the City of South Milwaukee had a 525% increase in approved new business occupancies. The [Downtown District](#) is now home to over 100 businesses. Bolstered by a determined business community and a proactive focus on economic development in the City's strategic plan, the accelerated activity can also be credited to the generous contributions of the [Bucyrus Foundation](#) and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation's [Main Street Bounceback Grant](#) program.

The Bucyrus Foundation funds were the catalyst for the [Bucyrus Club & Event Center](#) redevelopment, the [Bucyrus Commons downtown park and event space](#), a [Downtown Strategic Plan](#), and [multiple business and commercial property grant programs](#).

The WEDC's Main Street Bounceback Grant program awarded \$10,000 grants to new and existing businesses opening a new location or expanding operations in a vacant commercial space. Over the life of the program, \$250,000 was awarded to South Milwaukee small businesses.

[Immortal Toys and Collectables](#) is one of South Milwaukee's newest small businesses and a Bounceback Grant recipient. "I love having my first small business in South Milwaukee," said Peter Burgos, owner of Immortal Toys and Collectables. "My wife and I also enjoy being part of the revitalization of the business district along Milwaukee Avenue."

Said Mayor Jim Shelenske: "South Milwaukee is a business-friendly community that prioritizes attraction, retention, and expansion of new businesses. I am grateful to those choosing to do business in South Milwaukee and I encourage anyone interested in opening a business to strongly consider making South Milwaukee their home."

Those interested in starting their first business, moving, or expanding their operations can learn more about the [Bucyrus Economic Development Grants](#) and other opportunities on the [City's economic development webpage](#).

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